



APPA Speech Competition Judging Criteria

Please note the following are the criteria that will be used by the judges at the Champion of Champion Speech Finals for both Years 5 and 6 and Years 7 and 8.

1. Speech Construction

- Introduction, body of speech, conclusion
- Organisation of the speech
- Main points developed well

2. Presentation and Delivery

- Facial and body gestures must enhance not distract from the speech
- Use of eye-contact
- Relaxed stance
- Use of pause to allow the audience to assimilate the message
- Variety of pace

3. Content of Speech

- The message of the speech
- Is it relevant, meaningful clear and concise?
- Does it have the audience "hooked"?

4. Language

- The use of grammar, punctuation and word selection to enhance
- The use of visual imagery to ensure that the message is delivered

5. Effectiveness

- The impact on the audience
- Judges will be watching and assessing the audience's reaction

6. Vocal Inclination

- Modulation and volume of voice in delivery of the speech
- Vocal interest

Please Note:

- A speech contest is not a dramatic performance. Children will have points deducted if in the eyes of the judges they cross this boundary.

- Children will lose 5 points if their speech is either under 2 min 30 sec or over 3 min 30 sec. A light will go on at 2 minutes and off at 3 minutes in the finals.
- Years 7 and 8 contestants will be given a choice of two impromptu speech topics on the night of the Champions of Champions [one factual, one fictional] from which to choose.
- The judges will not give individual feedback to the contestants. The scoring sheets will be destroyed after the competition.
- The judges' decision is final and no discussion will be entered into once this has been made.
- The use of microphones or other such audio aids are not permitted.

Recommendations Regarding Adjudicators:

School Competitions:

- Use only one adjudicator, preferably a teacher from another local primary school - - you could adjudicate their school's competition in return.

Zone Competitions:

- Use two adjudicators. These adjudicators can be sought through - Toastmasters, Jaycees, Secondary Schools' English Department HOD's, Public Speaking Profile i.e. Newsreaders, Radio or TV personalities.
- These adjudicators should not have judged a school competition during this year's contest to ensure complete impartiality in the process.